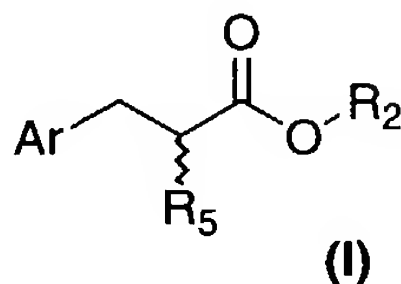


## A B S T R A C T

Provided is a method of resolving a racemic mixture of a compound of formula I to obtain a desired enantiomer:



wherein Ar is C<sub>6</sub> or C<sub>10</sub> aromatic group that can be substituted with H, C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, trifluoromethyl or halo, R<sub>5</sub> is halo or -S-R<sub>1</sub>, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is H or acetyl, and R<sub>2</sub> is H or C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, the method comprising: reacting a compound of formula I wherein the compound is an ester whereby R<sub>2</sub> is C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl with a lipase derived from *Mucor meihei* to stereoselectively hydrolyze the ester bond to produce an acid; and isolating the acid, wherein the reaction is conducted in a solvent comprising 80% to 98% v/v% organic phase and a residue of water phase (which can be buffered).